

SENATE RESOLUTION 81
By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Shirley Brooks upon her selection as Teacher of the Year at Meadowview Middle School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding educators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Brooks is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Brooks has recently been selected as Teacher of the Year by her colleagues at Meadowview Middle School, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on countless young lives; and

WHEREAS, being selected as Teacher of the Year at the school level is the first step in the competition for regional, state, and national honors; Ms. Brooks will compete against other school-level winners from Hamblen County in order to advance to the district competition; and

WHEREAS, serving with acumen and alacrity as a library media specialist at Meadowview Middle School, Shirley Brooks has a prestigious educational background that includes both a Master of Science in Library Science degree and a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts degree from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, before coming to Meadowview Middle, Ms. Brooks served as librarian at Hillcrest, Alpha and Whitesburg, taught remedial English at Walters State Community College, and taught Latin and English at Dobbins-Bennett High School in Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, always striving to hone her instructional skills and diversify learning, Ms. Shirley Brooks is a member of the school improvement plan committee and chair of the

organizational and instructional analysis committee; she is the school spelling bee coordinator and scholastic bowl coach; and

WHEREAS, the recipient of HC*EXCELL Founders Grant, Ms. Brooks implemented “Reading Exercises Your Mind” for at-risk students and has procured other grants for Meadowview that have benefited the school’s summer reading program and science book selections; and

WHEREAS, a recognized leader among her peers, Shirley Brooks has made presentations at the Tennessee Technology Conference in Nashville on the Accelerated Reader program and at the Title I Conference in Gatlinburg on “Reading Exercises Your Mind”; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Brooks truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; she is an advocate for a Cambodian refugee family, teaching them English and assimilating them into American culture; and

WHEREAS, highly respected by her peers and colleagues, Ms. Brooks is a member of the Tennessee Library Association, Lakeway Reading Council, and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, which she has served as corresponding and recording secretary; for Hamblen County, she serves on the Title I committee and the Consolidated Planning Committee; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and active member of her community, Shirley Brooks has served as storyteller for the public library, judged speeches, and assisted Meadowview’s Beta Club “Battle of the Books” team; she has worked extensively with the 4-H program, judging high school and district forensics contests; and

WHEREAS, a faithful and very active member of her church, Ms. Brooks is secretary to the administrative board, vice chair of the Lay Leadership Committee and coordinator of the Benevolent Fund to assist indigents; a former 20-year Sunday school teacher, she currently serves as vice president of her Sunday school class and as tape ministry coordinator; and

WHEREAS, truly epitomizing the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, Shirley Brooks should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Ms. Shirley Brooks on being chosen as Meadowview Middle School's Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.